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FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1858.

ADMIRALTY, August 23, 1858.

DESPATCHES, of which the following are copies, have been received by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty from Captain Sotheby, C.B., of Her Majesty's ship Pearl, commanding a Naval Brigade in India:—

SIR, Camp, Bustee, June 22, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that a portion of the Naval Brigade,* under charge of Lieutenant Turnour, and the Marines under Lieutenant Pym, R.M., were engaged in a very creditable affair on the 9th instant, in driving the enemy out of Amorha, where one party was posted in the village, and the other in a long belt of bamboo jungle, and a large house at the entrance; and I beg to recommend both these active Officers, then suffering from sickness, to their Lordships' notice, with the accompanying report.

Mr Foot, Midshipman, was also present with the guns.

I have, &c.,

E. S. SOTHEBY, Captain, R.N.,
Commanding Pearl's Naval Brigade.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

SIR, Camp, Bustee, June 11, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that while employed on detached service between the dates of 24th May and 11th June, the force, as per margin,† under command of Major Cox, of the 13th Light Infantry, the following engagement took place on the 9th instant. Information having reached us that the rebels, in force under Mahomed Hussein, were at Amorha, a village five or six miles off, arrangements were made for attacking them. Accordingly, having divided our force into two columns, the largest commanded by Major Cox and the other, to which I was attached, by Major Richardson, of the Bengal Yeomanry Cavalry, we left the camp at 2 A.M. and marched along the road

* Fifty-three Naval Brigade, two 12-pr. howitzers, one 24-pr. rocket.

† 200 13th Light Infantry; 2 Troops Madras Cavalry; 2 Troops Bengal Cavalry; 2 guns (Pearl's), 20 seamen, 1 rocket, 8 seamen, 3 officers, 20 marines; 20 Seikhs.

leading through the village. When within a mile of the place we received a heavy fire from their skirmishers; these were immediately attacked and driven in by the Marines, under Lieutenant Pym, while the guns threw shell and shot at their main body, which, after a quarter of an hour's firing, retreated into the Banee's house, and jungle. There they were met and driven off by the other column, under Major Cox; the enemy then retreated towards Belwah, and were pursued four miles by the cavalry, who succeeded in cutting up a considerable number. The force having halted to refresh the men, then returned to Hurreah.

I have, &c.,

N. E. B. TURNOUR, Lieut. H.M.S. Pearl,
in command of Naval Detachment.

*To Captain E. Sotheby, R.N.,
Pearl's Naval Brigade, Bustee.*

SIR, Camp, Bustee, June 25, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the force, as per margin,* left Captangunge on the 18th instant, at 3 A.M., to attack a body of rebels, from 3,500 to 4,000 strong, including 900 Sepoys, under Mahomed Hussein, posted in, and entrenched about, the village of Hurreah, eight miles in our front.

On approaching within 1½ miles of the bridge at 6:30, we discovered the enemy's skirmishers thrown across the river, screened in some thick bamboo jungle, villages, topes, and a considerable number in ambush in a dry nullah. Our skirmishers, consisting of 70 of the Pearl's Naval Brigade, and a Company of Her Majesty's 13th Light Infantry, supported by our 2-horsed 12-pounder howitzers, immediately advanced on our left, and by their quick fire drove them in; following the enemy over the river (which they forded above their waists), they turned their right flank; our guns, after shelling and clearing out the village, galloped over the bridge, rejoined the skirmishers, and broke their centre, drove the

* Pearl's Naval Brigade 111; 13th Light Infantry 145; Seikhs 50; Bengal Yeomanry Cavalry 100; Madras Cavalry 100; one 24-pr. rocket, and two 12-pr. howitzers, horsed. Naval Brigade.

One 9-pr. gun; one 24-pr. howitzer, bullock; Bengal Artillery.

